VZCZCXYZ0018

DE RUEHBO #3590 3161624 ZNR UUUUU ZZH O R 121623Z NOV 09 FM AMEMBASSY BOGOTA TO RUEHC/SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 0821 INFO RUEHAC/AMEMBASSY ASUNCION RUEHBO/AMEMBASSY BOGOTA RUEHBR/AMEMBASSY BRASILIA 0181 RUEHBU/AMEMBASSY BUENOS AIRES 0493 RUEHCV/AMEMBASSY CARACAS 0665 RUEHLP/AMEMBASSY LA PAZ RUEHMN/AMEMBASSY MONTEVIDEO RUEHPE/AMEMBASSY LIMA RUEHQT/AMEMBASSY QUITO RUEHRC/DEPT OF AGRICULTURE USD FAS WASHINGTON DC RUEHSG/AMEMBASSY SANTIAGO RUEHZP/AMEMBASSY PANAMA

UNCLAS BOGOTA 003590

SIPDIS

PASS TO: USDA/FAS, OES/ENRC AND EEB/TPP/MTAA/ABT

E.O. 12958: N/A

TAGS: SENV EAGR ETRD TBIO CO

SUBJECT: DEMARCHE DELIVERED: IICA MEETING FOR BIOSAFETY PROTOCOL

REF: STATE 114855

Per reftel, Emboffs spoke with officials at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MFA) and the Ministry of Environment regarding the upcoming Inter-American Institute for Cooperation on Agriculture (IICA) meeting in Santiago. MFA officials confirmed that Bibiana Rojas, advisor to Environment Vice Minister Claudia Mora, is leading the Colombian delegation in Santiago. Emboffs relayed points from reftel to Coordinator of Environmental Issues Paula Bernal at the MFA. Bernal stated that she will review the points with her colleagues, including Rojas, who left for Santiago on Monday. Bernal suggested that U.S. delegates to the IICA meeting discuss the points with Ms. Rojas in Santiago.

Ministry of Environment officials informed us that MFA generally leads discussions within the Colombian government on bio-safety issues but that they have not yet convened meetings to define Colombia's position or the composition of Colombia's delegation to Kuala Lumpur in February 2010.

BROWNFIELD